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Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 49th and 58th meetings, on 10 May and 27 June 2007. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.49 and 58).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (A/61/724);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 (A/61/774);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/852/Add.4).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.58

4. At its 58th meeting, on 27 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus" (A/C.5/61/L.58), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Panama.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.58 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 186 (1964) of 4 March 1964 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1728 (2006) of 15 December 2006, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force until 15 June 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 47/236 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 60/270 of 30 June 2006,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force by certain Governments,

Noting that voluntary contributions were insufficient to cover all the costs of the Force, including those incurred by troop-contributing Governments prior to 16 June 1993, and regretting the absence of an adequate response to appeals for voluntary contributions, including that contained in the letter dated 17 May 1994 from the Secretary-General to all Member States,[3]

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/__ of __ June 2007,[4] as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus as at 31 March 2007, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 17.9 million United States dollars, representing some 6 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-two

[1] A/61/724 and A/61/774.
[2] A/61/852/Add.4.
[3] S/1994/647.
[4] See A/C.5/61/L.49.

Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Force;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue negotiations with the host Government on issues regarding the accommodation of military contingent personnel as well as other personnel of the Force, in accordance with the provisions of the March 1964 Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Cyprus, and to report on any developments in this regard to the General Assembly in the context of the next budget submission;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that safety and the operational needs of the Force are not affected while military contingent personnel are being rotated;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266 and 61/__;[4]

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Force against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Force;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

15. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Force for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006;[5]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

16. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus the amount of 48,847,500 dollars for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, inclusive of 46,587,400 dollars for the maintenance of the Force, 1,943,800 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 316,300 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

17. *Notes with appreciation* that a one-third share of the net appropriation, equivalent to 15,543,266 dollars, will be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Cyprus and the amount of 6.5 million dollars from the Government of Greece;

18. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 26,804,234 dollars at a monthly rate of 2,233,686 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2007 and 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

19. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 2,217,700 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 1,998,300 dollars approved for the Force, the prorated share of 197,900 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 21,500 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

20. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the amount of 1,169,516 dollars for the financial period ended 30 June 2006, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003;

21. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the amount of 1,169,516 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 20 above;

22. *Also decides* that the decrease in the estimated staff assessment income of 111,100 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006 shall be set

[5] A/61/724.

off against the credits from the amount of 1,169,516 dollars referred to in paragraphs 20 and 21 above;

23. *Further decides*, taking into account its voluntary contribution for the financial period ended 30 June 2006, that one third of the net unencumbered balance and other income in the amount of 679,433 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006 shall be returned to the Government of Cyprus;

24. *Decides*, taking into account its voluntary contribution for the financial period ended 30 June 2006, that the prorated share of the net unencumbered balance and other income in the amount of 300,451 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006 shall be returned to the Government of Greece;

25. *Also decides* to continue to maintain as separate the account established for the Force for the period prior to 16 June 1993, invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to that account, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in appealing for voluntary contributions to the account;

26. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

27. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Force, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

28. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus".